

Governor's Hurricane Conference

Disaster Recovery and FEMA

AGENDA

- Introduction
- FEMA Process
- Funding Timeline
- Challenges
- How to Prepare
- In-House vs. Out-Source
- Case Study
- Questions and Answers



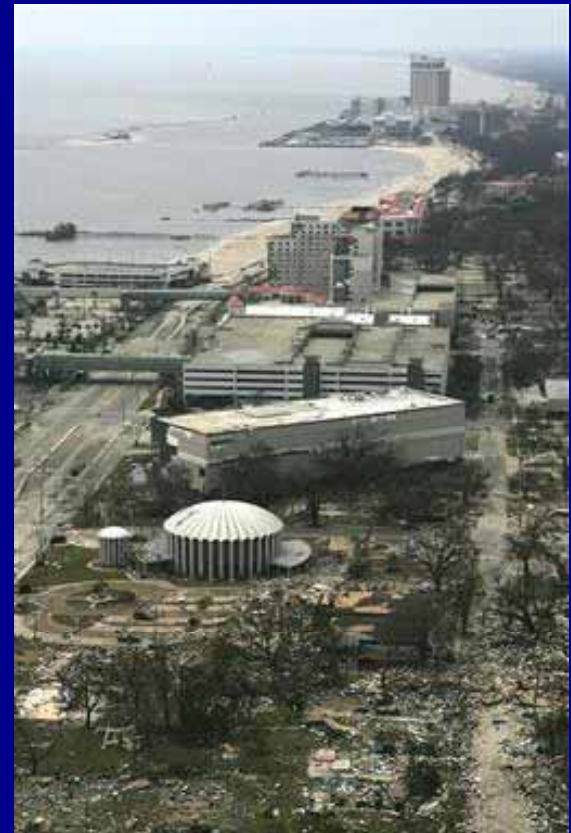
INTRODUCTION

- Frank LaCourse



FEMA PROCESS (FEMA's View)

- Presidential Declaration
- Damage Assessment
- Project Worksheets Written
- Obligation
- Work Completed
- Close-out
- IG Audits



FEMA PROCESS (Reality)

- Work Often Begins Prior
- Significant Dollars Spent Before FEMA Arrives
- Difficult to Navigate Without Program Knowledge
- Your Municipalities Future is at Stake



FEMA PROGRAM SHORTFALLS

- Reimbursement Program
- Expects/Requires Applicants to Know the Laws, Regulations, and Policies
- No Equality in the Implementation of the Program
- FEMA Staff are Undertrained
- FEMA Funding is SLOW to Come



FUNDING TIMELINE

- -72 Hrs – 60 Days - Emergency Work Performed
- -72 Hrs – 0 Hrs - Presidential Declaration
- 30 – 45 Days – FEMA Kick-Off Meeting
- 60 – 90 Days – Emergency Work PW's Written
- 90 – 120 Days – 1st Emergency Work Funding Obligated (Under-Funded)

FUNDING TIMELINE

- CONVENTIONAL EVENT
- 90 Days – 2 Yrs – Permanent Work PW's Written
- 90 Days – 2 Yrs – Permanent Work Funding Obligated (Under-Funded)
- -72 Hrs – 3 Yrs – Work Completed
- 120 Days – 3 Yrs – Partial State Reimbursement Received
- 4 – 6 Yrs – Close-Out Occurs

FUNDING TIMELINE

- CATASTROPHIC EVENT
- 6 months-18 months – 1st dollars arrive
- 4-6 years - Versions negotiated and obligated for Close-out
- 5-10 years – Final Reimbursements from Grantee received
- 7-12 Yrs – FEMA close-out verification and IG audit period

CHALLENGES

- Initial Response Documentation
- Recovery Staffing
- FEMA Negotiation
- Funds Availability
- Turning FEMA Funding Into Executable Projects



CHALLENGES

- Initial Response Documentation
 - Results in Non-Reimbursable Expenses
 - Requires Detailed Review and Extensive Negotiation
 - Examples



CHALLENGES

- Recovery Staffing
 - Availability of Qualified Staff
 - Negative Impacts
 - Funding Well Below Legal Entitlement
 - Opportunity Cost
 - Can Cripple Recovery



CHALLENGES

- FEMA Negotiation

- Inconsistent Policy Interpretations
- Slows Recovery
- Wastes Valuable Time and Resources
- Knowledge of Precedence can Help to Alleviate



CHALLENGES

- Funds Availability
 - Cash Reserves
 - Bridge Loans



CHALLENGES

- Turning FEMA Funding Into Executable Projects
 - Difficult to Accomplish
 - Funds are Very Restricted



How to Prepare

- Pre-Planning
 - Defining of Internal Roles
 - Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)
 - Internal Time Tracking System
 - Pre-Placed Contracts

IN-HOUSE vs. OUTSOURCE

- In-House Considerations
 - Duration of Recovery and Staff Fatigue
 - How Will You Effectively Manage the Traditional (non-disaster) Workload
 - Opportunity Cost



IN-HOUSE vs. OUTSOURCE

- Outsource Considerations
 - Return on Investment
 - Recovery Timeframe
 - Mitigation of Risk
 - How to Capture and Retain Institutional Memory



RSD CASE STUDY

- Program Management
- Alternate Project Approach
- Political Power
 - Use of Political Capital
- Persistence
- Tenacity
- Know the Rules



RSD CASE STUDY

- Example Benefits of Representation
 - Estimating Guidance Interpretation
 - NFIP Definition of Building
 - Maximized Use of Fund Sources
 - Creative Eligibility Arguments
 - Estimated Funding Recovery

RESOURCES

International Association of Emergency Managers

- <http://www.iaem.com>

FEMA 9500 Series Policies

- <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/9500toc.shtm>

FEMA Public Assistance Guide

- http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/pag07_t.shtm

FEMA Debris Management Guide

- <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/demagde.shtm>

FEMA Cost Estimating Format

- <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/ceftoc.shtm#IG>

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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